

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) System for ~~treating, in particular~~ cataphoretically dip-coating, ~~articles, in particular~~ vehicle bodies, comprising

- a) a plurality of treatment containers, in which the articles are acted upon in each case by a treatment liquid;
- b) at least one feed carriage, by means of which the articles are conveyed through the system and in the process introduced into and removed from the treatment containers and which in turn comprises:
 - ba) running gear movable along the path of motion of the articles;
 - bb) at least one swivel arm coupled to the running gear;
 - bc) a holding device coupled to the swivel arm for at least one article;
 - bd) mutually independently actuatable drives for the translational movement, the swivelling of the at least one swivel arm and of the holding device;
 - be) a counterbalancing device, by means of which the energy needed to swivel the at least one swivel arm may be reduced,

characterized in that:

- c) the counterbalancing device comprises at least one energy storage mechanism ~~(42) comprising an elastically deformable medium, in which medium is capable of temporarily storing the energy released during lowering of the article is temporarily storable~~ by virtue of elastic deformation of a the medium and from which the temporarily stored energy is retrievable in order to assist the upward movement of the article.

2. (Currently Amended) System according to claim 1, characterized in that the energy storage mechanism comprises at least one gas-filled, ~~in particular air-filled~~ bellows device ~~(42)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) System according to claim 2, characterized in that the internal pressure of the bellows device (42) is adjustable.
4. (Original) System according to claim 1, characterized in that the energy storage mechanism comprises a spring.
5. (Original) System according to claim 4, characterized in that the spring is a pneumatic spring.
6. (Currently Amended) System according to ~~claim 4 or 5~~claim 4, characterized by a damping apparatus associated with the spring.
7. (Currently Amended) System according to claim 1 ~~one of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that a linkage (40) comprising a plurality of hinge-connected elements (43, 44, 45) lies in the energy flow between the at least one swivel arm (50, 51) and the energy storage mechanism (42).
8. (Currently Amended) System according to claim 7, characterized in that the linkage (40) comprises three elements (43, 44, 45), of which the element (45) that acts upon the energy storage mechanism (42) is designed as a rocker-like, two-armed lever.
9. (Currently Amended) System according to ~~claim 7 or 8~~claim 7, characterized in that the elements (43, 44, 45) of the linkage (40) comprise in each case two links, which are connected to one another by the link pins (46, 47, 48), about which the elements (43, 44, 45) are pivotable.
10. (Currently Amended) System according to ~~one of claims 7 to 9~~claim 7, characterized in that the drive for the at least one swivel arm (50, 51) comprises at least one motor (61), which drives a threaded spindle (61), which in turn interacts with a threaded coupling (63) pivotally fastened to an element (43) of the linkage (40).

11. (New) System according to claim 1, characterized in that the at least one gas-filled bellows device comprises an air-filled bellows device.